

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

~~Claims 1. - 26. (canceled).~~

~~27.~~ (original): A printer usable with thermal transfer material;

wherein said thermal transfer material comprises a support, a release layer overlaid on said support, and a coloring transfer layer, overlaid on said release layer, having thermoplasticity, and colorable by being exposed and then pressurized;

said printer comprising:

a feeder for feeding said thermal transfer material along a feeding path;

an exposure head, disposed in a feeding path, for forming a latent image by exposing said coloring transfer layer; and

a thermal head, disposed in said feeding path and downstream from said exposure head, for heating and pressurizing said thermal transfer material by contacting said support while said coloring transfer layer is placed on image receiving material after said latent image is formed, so as to visibilize said latent image and transfer said coloring transfer layer to said image receiving material.

~~28.~~ (original): A printer as defined in claim ~~27~~, wherein said coloring transfer layer includes thermoplastic resin, developer agent and plural micro capsules distributed uniformly,

said micro capsules include dye precursor, photo-setting resin and photo polymerization initiator, said dye precursor is colorable in a predetermined color, and said photo-setting resin is hardened by light of a color complementary to said predetermined color;

said exposure head exposes said thermal transfer material by light of said complementary color, for hardening part of said photo-setting resin, to disable part of said dye precursor from developing color;

C' cont
said thermal head destroys said micro capsules for causing unhardened remainder of said dye precursor to develop color by reaction upon said developer agent with unhardened remainder of said photo-setting resin.

3 ~~29~~. (original): A printer usable with thermal transfer material;

wherein said thermal transfer material comprises a support, a release layer overlaid on said support, and an ink receiving transfer layer, overlaid on said release layer, and having thermoplasticity and ink receptivity;

said printer comprising:

a feeder for feeding said thermal transfer material along a feeding path;

an ink jet recording head, disposed in a feeding path, for recording an image to said ink receiving transfer layer with ink; and

a thermal head, disposed in said feeding path and downstream from said ink jet recording head, for heating and pressurizing said thermal transfer material by contacting said support while

said ink receiving transfer layer is placed on image receiving material after said image is recorded, so as to transfer said ink receiving transfer layer to said image receiving material.

{30. (canceled).

C' cont
31. (currently amended): A printer useable with thermal transfer material, wherein said thermal transfer material comprises a support, a release layer overlaid on said support, and first, second and third thermosensitive coloring transfer layers having thermoplasticity, overlaid on said release layer for developing one of three colors different therebetween, said first and second thermosensitive coloring transfer layers having optical fixability in response to electromagnetic rays, said printer comprising:

a feeder for feeding said thermal transfer material along a feeding path;

a thermal head, disposed in said feeding path, for heating and pressurizing said thermal transfer material by contacting said support while said coloring transfer layer is placed on an image receiving material, so as to record an image thermally in said first, second and third thermosensitive coloring transfer layers and transfer said coloring transfer layer to said image receiving material;

an image receiving material transfer device for feeding said image receiving material to said thermal head such that said coloring transfer layer is transferred to said image receiving material;

a first fixer lamp to emit electromagnetic rays in a first wavelength range to fix said first thermosensitive coloring transfer layer; and

a second fixer lamp to emit electromagnetic rays in a second wavelength range, different from said first wavelength range, to fix said second thermosensitive coloring transfer layer.

5 ~~32.~~ (currently amended): A printer usable with thermal transfer material, wherein said thermal transfer material comprises a support, a release layer overlaid on said support, and first, second and third thermosensitive coloring transfer layers, overlaid on said release layer in sequence from said release layer for developing one of three colors different therebetween, said first and second thermosensitive coloring transfer layers having optical fixability in response to electromagnetic rays, said third thermosensitive coloring transfer layer having thermoplasticity, said printer comprising:

a feeder for feeding said thermal transfer material along a feeding path;

a thermal head, disposed in said feeding path, for heating and pressurizing said thermal transfer material by contacting said support for recording an image in said first and second thermosensitive coloring transfer layers, for recording an image in said third thermosensitive coloring transfer layer, and for transferring said first, second and third thermosensitive coloring transfer layers to an image receiving material;

an image receiving material transfer device for feeding said image receiving material to said thermal head such that said coloring transfer layers are transferred to said image receiving material;

a first fixer lamp to emit electromagnetic rays in a first wavelength range to fix said first thermosensitive coloring transfer layer; and

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a second fixer lamp to emit electromagnetic rays in a second wavelength range, different from said first wavelength range, to fix said second thermosensitive coloring transfer layer.

C.1
cont.
6 ~~33~~ (previously presented): The printer of claim ~~32~~⁵, wherein said first and second fixer lamps are disposed in said feeding path.
